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CREDENTIALS OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE NINTH MEETING OF STATES PARTIES TO THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF THE SEA

First Report of the Credentials Committee

Chairman: Mr. Marthinus van Schalkwyk (South Africa)

1. At its 35th meeting, on 19 May 1999, the Ninth Meeting of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea appointed a Credentials Committee consisting of the following nine members: Cameroon, Croatia, Germany, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Philippines, South Africa, Trinidad and Tobago and Uruguay.

2. The Credentials Committee held its first meeting on 21 May 1999.

3. Marthinus van Schalkwyk (South Africa) was elected Chairman of the Committee.

4. The Committee had before it a memorandum by the Secretariat, dated 20 May 1999, on the status of credentials of representatives participating in the Ninth Meeting of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.

5. As noted in paragraph 1 of the memorandum of the Secretariat, as orally amended during the meeting, formal credentials by the head of State or Government or by the Minister for Foreign Affairs or by a person authorized by either of them had been received by the Secretariat for the representatives of the following 75 States participating in the Ninth Meeting of States Parties: Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Barbados, Belize, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Cook Islands, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guyana, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico,

Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Suriname, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania and Viet Nam.

6. As noted in paragraph 2 of the memorandum of the Secretariat, the formal credentials issued by the President of the European Commission had also been submitted for the representatives of the European Community.

7. As noted in paragraph 3 of the memorandum of the Secretariat, as orally amended during the meeting, information concerning the appointment of representatives participating in the Ninth Meeting of States Parties had been communicated by means of facsimile or in the form of letters or notes verbales from ministries, permanent missions to the United Nations or other government offices or authorities by the following 32 States participating in the Ninth Meeting of States Parties: Angola, Bahamas, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Georgia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Honduras, Iraq, Ireland, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mongolia, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Poland, Singapore, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Uruguay, Yemen and Zimbabwe.

8. The Chairman proposed that the Committee accept the credentials of all representatives mentioned in the memorandum of the Secretariat, supplemented by the additional information provided by the Secretariat during the meeting of the Credentials Committee, on the understanding that formal credentials of representatives referred to in paragraph 3 of the Secretariat's memorandum would be communicated to the Secretariat as soon as possible. The following draft resolution was proposed by the Chairman for adoption by the Committee:

> "The Credentials Committee,
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> "Having examined the credentials of the representatives to the Ninth Meeting of State Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea referred to in paragraphs 1 to 3 of the memorandum of the Secretariat dated 20 May 1999, supplemented by the additional information provided by the Secretariat during the meeting of the Credentials Committee,
>
> "Accepts the credentials of the representatives concerned."

9. The draft resolution was adopted by the Committee without a vote.

10. Subsequently, the Chairman proposed that the Committee recommend to the Meeting of States Parties the adoption of the following draft resolution:

"Credentials of representatives to the Ninth Meeting of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea

"The Ninth Meeting of States to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea

"Approves the report of the Credentials Committee."

11. In the light of the foregoing, the present report is submitted to the Ninth Meeting of States Parties.

RECOMMENDATION OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

12. The Credentials Committee recommends to the Ninth Meeting of States Parties the adoption of the following draft resolution:

"Credentials of representatives of the Ninth Meeting of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea

"The Ninth Meeting of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea

"Approves the report of the Credentials Committee."